IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 1 as follows. Applicant includes herewith an Attachment for Claim Amendments showing a marked up version of each amended claim.

1. (Amended) A drive shaft assembly for interconnecting a driving component of an agricultural machine and a driven component of an agricultural implement, comprising:

a first shaft;

a second shaft engaging said first shaft for enabling torque transmission and relative axial sliding motion therebetween; and

a joint component of a universal joint operably interconnecting one of said first and second shafts to one of the agricultural driving and driven components, said joint component is both rotatable through a specified range of rotation and is fixed from axial movement relative to one of said second shaft, the agricultural driving component of the agricultural machine and the agricultural driven component of the agricultural implement.